THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electronic device comprising:

a housing;

a display carried by said housing;

a fingerprint sensor carried by said housing; and

a processor for generating a plurality of menu items on said display, and for scrolling an indicator along the menu items based upon static placement of a finger adjacent a selected portion of said fingerprint sensor.

2. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein said fingerprint sensor comprises a fingerprint sensing area having a polygonal shape defining a plurality of spaced apart corner portions; and wherein said processor scrolls the indicator in a direction corresponding to a pointing direction of a respective corner portion.

3. An electronic device according to Claim 2 wherein the polygonal shape of said fingerprint sensing area is a diamond shape.

4. An electronic device according to Claim 3 wherein the plurality of menu items are arranged in a single column; and wherein the plurality of spaced apart corner portions are defined by an upper corner portion for scrolling the indicator in an upward direction through the menu items, a downward corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a downward direction through the menu items, a first-side corner portion for selecting a menu item, and a second-side corner portion for returning to a previous menu.

5. An electronic device according to Claim 3 wherein the plurality of menu items are arranged in a plurality of columns; and wherein the plurality of spaced apart corner portions are defined by an upper corner portion for scrolling the indicator in an upward direction through the menu items, a downward corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a downward direction through the menu items, a first-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a first side of said display through the menu items, and a second-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a second side of said display through the menu items.

6. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein said processor cooperates with said fingerprint sensor to first verify an identity of a user based upon sensing a fingerprint prior to permitting scrolling.

7. An electronic device according to Claim 6 further comprising a memory for storing at least one authorized fingerprint; and wherein said processor verifies the fingerprint of the user by comparing the fingerprint of the user to the at least one authorized fingerprint stored in the memory.

8. An electronic device according to Claim 6 wherein said processor enables scrolling within a predetermined time window of verifying the identity of the user.

9. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein said processor is switchable to a lower power

operating mode when a user's finger is not sensed on said fingerprint sensor.

10. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein said fingerprint sensor comprises a plurality of fingerprint sensing elements; and wherein said processor determines static placement based upon a pattern of fingerprint sensing elements less than a full number of fingerprint sensing elements.

11. An electronic device according to Claim 10 further comprising logic circuitry between said processor and said sensing elements.

12. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein the plurality of menu items comprises at least one further menu comprising a different plurality of menu items.

13. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein the plurality of menu items comprises a back item and a forward item.

14. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein said processor selects the menu item marked with the indicator based upon a tapping of the fingerprint sensing area.

15. An electronic device according to Claim 14 wherein said fingerprint sensor comprises a fingerprint sensing area having a polygonal shape defining a plurality of spaced apart corner portions; and wherein said processor determines tapping of the fingerprint sensing area based upon sensing of finger placement over a plurality of corner portions.

16. An electronic device according to Claim 1 wherein said housing comprises a handheld housing.

17. An electronic device according to Claim 1 further comprising a power supply carried by said housing and connected to said display, fingerprint sensor, and processor.

18. An electronic device according to Claim 1 further comprising circuitry connected to said processor so that the electronic device comprises at least one of a portable telephone, a pager, a laptop computer, and a personal digital assistant (PDA).

19. An electronic device comprising:

a housing;

a display carried by said housing;

a fingerprint sensor carried by said housing and comprising a fingerprint sensing area having a diamond shape defining a plurality of spaced apart corner portions; and

a processor for generating a plurality of menu items on said display arranged in at least one column, and for scrolling an indicator along the at least one column of menu items based upon static placement of a finger adjacent a pointing direction of a respective corner portion of the fingerprint sensing area.

20. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein the at least one column of menu items comprises a single column of menu items; and wherein the plurality of spaced apart corner portions are defined by an upper corner portion for scrolling the indicator in an upward direction through the menu items, a downward corner portion for scrolling the

indicator in a downward direction through the menu items, a first-side corner portion for selecting a menu item, and a second-side corner portion for returning to a previous menu.

21. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein the at least one column of menu items comprises a plurality of columns of menu items; and wherein the plurality of spaced apart corner portions are defined by an upper corner portion for scrolling the indicator in an upward direction through the menu items, a downward corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a downward direction through the menu items, a first-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a first side of said display through the menu items, and a second-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a second side of said display through the menu items.

22. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein said processor cooperates with said fingerprint sensor to first verify an identity of a user based upon sensing a fingerprint prior to permitting scrolling.

23. An electronic device according to Claim 22 further comprising a memory for storing at least one authorized fingerprint; and wherein said processor verifies the fingerprint of the user by comparing the fingerprint of the user to the at least one authorized fingerprint stored in the memory.

24. An electronic device according to Claim 22 wherein said processor enables scrolling within a

predetermined time window of verifying the identity of the user.

25. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein said processor is switchable to a lower power operating mode when a user's finger is not sensed on said fingerprint sensor.

26. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein said fingerprint sensor comprises a plurality of fingerprint sensing elements; and wherein said processor determines static placement based upon a pattern of fingerprint sensing elements less than a full number of fingerprint sensing elements.

27. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein the plurality of menu items comprises at least one further menu comprising a different plurality of menu items.

28. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein the plurality of menu items comprises a back item and a forward item.

29. An electronic device according to Claim 19 wherein said processor selects the menu item marked with the indicator based upon a tapping of the fingerprint sensing area.

30. An electronic device according to Claim 29 wherein said processor determines tapping of the fingerprint sensing area based upon sensing of finger placement over a plurality of corner portions.

31. An electronic device according to Claim 19 further comprising circuitry connected to said processor so that the electronic device comprises at

least one of a portable telephone, a pager, a laptop computer, and a personal digital assistant (PDA).

32. An electronic device comprising:

a housing;

a display carried by said housing;

a fingerprint sensor carried by said housing and comprising a fingerprint sensing area having a diamond shape defining a plurality of spaced apart corner portions; and

a processor for generating a plurality of menu items on said display arranged in a plurality of columns, and for scrolling an indicator along the menu items based upon placement of a finger adjacent a selected portion of said fingerprint sensor;

said spaced apart corner portions of said fingerprint sensor defined by an upper corner portion for scrolling the indicator in an upward direction through the menu items, a downward corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a downward direction through the menu items, a first-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a first side of said display through the menu items, and a second-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a second side of said display through the menu items.

33. An electronic device according to Claim 32 wherein the processor scrolls the indicator along the menu items based upon static placement of a finger adjacent a selected portion of said fingerprint sensor.

34. An electronic device according to Claim 32 wherein said processor cooperates with said fingerprint sensor to first verify an identity of a

user based upon sensing a fingerprint prior to permitting scrolling.

35. An electronic device according to Claim 34 further comprising a memory for storing at least one authorized fingerprint; and wherein said processor verifies the fingerprint of the user by comparing the fingerprint of the user to the at least one authorized fingerprint stored in the memory.

36. An electronic device according to Claim 34 wherein said processor enables scrolling within a predetermined time window of verifying the identity of the user.

37. An electronic device according to Claim 32 wherein said processor is switchable to a lower power operating mode when a user's finger is not sensed on said fingerprint sensor.

38. An electronic device according to Claim 32 wherein said fingerprint sensor comprises a plurality of fingerprint sensing elements; and wherein said processor determines static placement based upon a pattern of fingerprint sensing elements less than a full number of fingerprint sensing elements.

39. An electronic device according to Claim 32 wherein the plurality of menu items comprises at least one further menu comprising a different plurality of menu items.

40. An electronic device according to Claim 32 wherein the plurality of menu items comprises a back item and a forward item.

41. An electronic device according to Claim 32 wherein said processor selects the menu item marked with the indicator based upon a tapping of the fingerprint sensing area.

42. An electronic device according to Claim 41 wherein said processor determines tapping of the fingerprint sensing area based upon sensing of finger placement over a plurality of corner portions.

43. An electronic device according to Claim 32 further comprising circuitry connected to said processor so that the electronic device comprises at least one of a portable telephone, a pager, a laptop computer, and a personal digital assistant (PDA).

44. An electronic device comprising:

a housing;

a display carried by said housing;

a fingerprint sensor carried by said housing and comprising a fingerprint sensing area having a diamond shape defining a plurality of spaced apart corner portions; and

a processor for generating a plurality of menu items on said display, and for selecting a menu item based upon a tapping of the fingerprint sensing area as determined by sensing finger placement over a plurality of corner portions.

45. An electronic device according to Claim 44 wherein said processor cooperates with said fingerprint sensor to first verify an identity of a user based upon sensing a fingerprint prior to permitting scrolling.

46. An electronic device according to Claim 45 further comprising a memory for storing at least one authorized fingerprint; and wherein said processor verifies the fingerprint of the user by comparing the fingerprint of the user to the at least one authorized fingerprint stored in the memory.

47. An electronic device according to Claim 45 wherein said processor is switchable to a lower power operating mode when a user's finger is not sensed on said fingerprint sensor.

48. An electronic device according to Claim 44 further comprising circuitry connected to said processor so that the electronic device comprises at least one of a portable telephone, a pager, a laptop computer, and a personal digital assistant (PDA).

49. A method of indicating a menu item from among a plurality of menu items on a display of an electronic device, the method comprising:

scrolling an indicator between the plurality of menu items based upon static placement of a finger adjacent a selected portion of the fingerprint sensor.

50. A method according to Claim 49 wherein the fingerprint sensor comprises a fingerprint sensing area having a polygonal shape defining a plurality of spaced apart corner portions; and wherein scrolling comprises scrolling the indicator in a direction corresponding to a pointing direction of a respective corner portion upon which the finger is placed.

51. A method according to Claim 50 wherein the polygonal shape of the fingerprint sensing area is a diamond shape.

52. A method according to Claim 51 wherein the plurality of menu items are arranged in a single column; and wherein the plurality of spaced apart corner portions are defined by an upper corner portion for scrolling the indicator in an upward direction through the menu items, a downward corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a downward direction through the menu items, a first-side corner portion for selecting a menu item, and a second-side corner portion for returning to a previous menu.

53. A method according to Claim 51 wherein the plurality of menu items are arranged in a plurality of columns; and wherein the plurality of spaced apart corner portions are defined by an upper corner portion for scrolling the indicator in an upward direction through the menu items, a downward corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a downward direction through the menu items, a first-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a first side of said display through the menu items, and a second-side corner portion for scrolling the indicator in a direction towards a second side of said display through the menu items.

54. A method according to Claim 49 further comprising first verifying an identity of a user based upon sensing a fingerprint prior to permitting scrolling.

55. A method according to Claim 54 further comprising storing at least one authorized fingerprint in a memory; and wherein verifying further comprises comparing the fingerprint of the user to the at least one authorized fingerprint stored in the memory.

56. A method according to Claim 54 further comprising enabling scrolling within a predetermined time window of verifying the identity of the user.

57. A method according to Claim 49 further comprising switching a processor of the electronic device to a lower power operating mode when a user's finger is not sensed on the fingerprint sensor.

58. A method according to Claim 49 wherein the fingerprint sensor comprises a plurality of fingerprint sensing elements; and wherein static placement of a finger is determined based upon a pattern of fingerprint sensing elements less than a full number of fingerprint sensing elements.

59. A method according to Claim 49 further comprising tapping the fingerprint sensing area to select the menu item marked with the indicator.